

## UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GRETCHEN C.F. SHAPPERT WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2006

CONTACT: SUELLEN PIERCE 704.338.3120 FAX 704.227.0264

## LOCAL PSYCHIATRIST SENTENCED IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT

Doctor Ordered to Surrender License to Practice Medicine

CHARLOTTE, NC - Warren Herbert Williams, 55, of Monroe, North Carolina was sentenced to spend a year and a day in federal prison after pleading guilty to healthcare fraud and illegal distribution of a controlled substance, United States Attorney Gretchen C. F. Shappert announced today. The Honorable Robert J. Conrad, Jr., United States District Judge, ordered on Monday, May 15 that Williams be placed in a substance abuse program, that he surrender his license to practice medicine and to dispense medications, and that he not be allowed to re-apply to the Medical Board until after completion of a three-year term of supervised release following his release from prison. Williams was further ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$59,885.64 to insurance companies which were the victims of his fraud, and barred from being a Medicare/Medicaid provider.

"The public needs to know that Warren Herbert Williams has been removed from the practice of medicine," said United States Attorney Gretchen Shappert. "He abused his oath as a medical doctor and distributed controlled substances without regard to the devastating potential consequences. Citizens should rest assured that this office will respond very seriously when a professional elects to break the federal law," she added.

Williams pled guilty in July 2005 to two counts that charged him with healthcare fraud and illegal distribution of a controlled substance, respectively. Williams had practiced as a Therapist/Psychiatrist privately in Charlotte from 1994 until the time of his arrest.

United States Attorney Shappert commended the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Charlotte and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation for their efforts in developing the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney Michael E. Savage, Chief of the Criminal Division for the Western District of North Carolina, handled the case for the government.

Warren Herbert Williams Docket Number 3:05cr83-C DOB: 1/3/51 601 Station Drive Monroe, NC